

(c) the details of monthly expenditure incurred on it so far;

(d) the steps taken by the Government for the permanent solution of ULFA problem and the result thereof; and

(e) the details of number of persons killed, injured seriously and kidnapping done by ULFA since 1 July, 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). The entire State of Assam stands declared as 'Disturbed Area' under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958. At the request of the State Government, the Army has been deployed in Assam in aid of the Civil Authority.

(c) The monthly expenditure on deployment of the Army in Assam is Rs. 6.3. crores approximately.

(d) The State Government has time and again asked the ULFA to abjure violence, accept the Constitution of India, release the hostages and come to the negotiating table. To create a congenial atmosphere the State Government also released about 500 ULFA detenus.

(e) ULFA has been responsible for 142 violent incidents resulting in the death of 53 persons and injuries to 41 others, since 1st July, 1991. This includes 65 incidents of kidnapping in which 81 persons were kidnapped of whom 17 were killed.

#### **S.T.D. in Headquarters of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh**

609. SHRI VILASRAONAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the district headquarters in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh have been linked with S.T.D. facility; and

(b) if not, the time by which all the districts are likely to be provided S.T.D.

facility?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) By March, 1992.

[English]

#### **Pension to Freedom Fighters of Gujarat**

610. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some applications for grant of pension to Freedom Fighters received during January 1, 1989 to October 31, 1991 from Jamnagar and other districts of Gujarat were rejected;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of such freedom fighters of district Jamnagar who are getting pension?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) During the period only nine applications from the State of Gujarat including Jamnagar District have been rejected.

(b) These did not fulfill the eligibility criteria laid down in the Central Pension Scheme.

(c) As no application from freedom fighters of Jamnagar District has been received during the period the question of grant of pension to them does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Telephone Connections in Delhi**

611. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state: